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We claim:

1. A computer implemented method comprising:
querying a first server for a location of a second server containing
information associated with an executable; and
querying the second server for the information associated with the
executable.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein querying a first server for a location of a
second server includes providing a path to a look up HyperText Transfer Protocol
(HTTP) symbol location server.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein querying a first server for a location of a
second server includes querying a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP)
server as the lookup HTTP server and requesting a number of Uniform Resource
Identifiers (URIs) for composing an appropriate query for querying the second
server for the information associated with the executable.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein querying a first server for a location of a
second server containing information associated with an executable includes
querying a Domain Name System (DNS) server as the lookup server for a service
(SRV) record identifying the second server to be queried.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein querying a first server for a location of a
second server containing information associated with an executable includes
querying a directory service to return the location of the second server.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein querying a first server for a location of a
second server containing information associated with an executable includes

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querying an Application Configuration Access Protocol (ACAP) server for the location of the second server.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein querying a first server for a location of a second server containing information associated with an executable includes querying a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) server for the location of the second server.

8. A computer implemented method comprising:
querying a set of symbol location servers for a set of symbols associated with a local file; and
receiving the set of symbols from the set of symbol location servers.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein querying the set of servers for a set of symbols includes querying the set of servers with a unique identifier composed of different values from an image header extracted from a local file.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the unique identifier composed of different values from an image header includes values which won't be replicated between differing versions of the local file.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein receiving a set of symbols includes receiving a set of files containing the symbols, wherein the files can be stored to a local system memory.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein querying a set of symbol location servers for a set of symbols associated with a local file includes querying a set of symbol location servers with a user customized query which can extract over a back end store.

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13. A computer implemented method comprising:
querying a set of servers containing location information for a second server having information associated with an executable; and
receiving a set of information from the set of servers.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein receiving a set of information includes receiving a set of reference locations on the second server which can be used to access a number of files on the second server associated with the executable.
15. The method of claim 13, wherein querying the set of servers includes querying a list of servers selected from the group consisting of a DHCP server, a DNS server, an ACAP server, and a LDAP server.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein querying the list of servers includes querying the list of servers in parallel.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein querying the list of servers includes querying the list of servers in a serial order.
18. The method of claim 13, wherein querying a set of servers containing location information for a second server having information associated with an executable includes packaging a set of information extracted from the executable into a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request and sending the HTTP request to the set of servers.
19. A computer implemented method comprising:
querying a first set of servers containing location information for a second server having information associated with an executable;

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receiving the location information for the second server from the first set of servers; and

querying the second server for the information associated with the executable using a syntax based on the location information received for the second server.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein querying a first set of servers containing location information for a second server having information associated with an executable includes querying the first set of servers using metadata associated with the executable.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable includes querying the second server using metadata associated with the executable.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the metadata includes metadata for a number of debug files.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the metadata includes metadata for a number of source files.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable includes querying the second server for symbols associated with the executable file.

25. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable includes querying the second server for regression analysis data associated with the executable file.

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26. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable includes querying the second server for performance analysis data associated with the executable file.
27. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable includes querying the second server for source code associated with the executable file.
28. The method of claim 19, wherein querying the second server for the information associated with the executable further includes receiving a number of files containing the information associated with the executable file.
29. A method for locating information associated with an executable file comprising:
packaging metadata extracted from the executable file into an HTTP request;
sending the HTTP request to a set of locator servers containing location information for a server on which the information associated with the executable is located; and
receiving a set of information back from the set of locator servers.
30. The method of claim 29, wherein packaging metadata extracted from the executable file into an HTTP request includes packaging metadata to locate an updated version of the executable file.
31. The method of claim 29, wherein packaging metadata extracted from the executable file into an HTTP request includes packaging metadata for locating a debug file associated with the executable file.

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32. The method of claim 29, wherein packaging metadata extracted from the executable file into an HTTP request includes packaging metadata to locate a specific build version of the executable file.
33. The method of claim 29, wherein receiving a set of information back from the set of locator servers includes receiving an HTTP redirect to the information associated with the executable file.
34. The method of claim 29, wherein receiving a set of information back from the set of locator servers includes receiving a location of a server on which the information associated with the executable is located, and wherein the method further includes querying the server with a number of unique identifiers for the information associated with the executable file.
35. The method of claim 34, wherein querying the server with a number of unique identifiers for the information associated with the executable file further includes providing a number of additional qualifiers.
36. A computerized system, comprising:
a first server containing location information for information associated with a local file;
a second server containing the information associated with the local file;
a computer having a number of local files; and
wherein the first server provides a set of information on the second server to the computer.
37. The system of claim 36, wherein the set of information provided to the computer by the first server includes the location information for the second server which can be used by the computer to query the second server.

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38. The system of claim 36, wherein the set of information provided to the computer by the first server includes the information associated with the local file.

39. The system of claim 36, wherein the computer can read the information associated with the local file directly from the second server.

40. The system of claim 36, wherein the first server includes a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server.

41. The system of claim 40, wherein the HTTP server containing location information for information associated with a local file includes a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server having a number of Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) for querying the second server containing the information associated with the local file.

42. The system of claim 40, wherein the HTTP server containing location information for information associated with a local file includes a Domain Name System (DNS) server having a service (SRV) record identifying the second server containing the information associated with the local file.

43. The system of claim 40, wherein the HTTP server containing location information for information associated with a local file includes an HTTP server having a directory service adapted to provide the location information for information associated with the local file to the computer.

44. The system of claim 36, wherein the first server includes an Application Configuration Access Protocol (ACAP) server adapted to provide the set of information on the second server to the computer.

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45. The system of claim 36, wherein the first server includes a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) server adapted to provide the set of information on the second server to the computer.

46. The system of claim 36, wherein the computer having a number of local files is networked to the first and the second servers over the Internet.

47. A computerized system, comprising:
a first server containing location information for information on an executable file;
a second server containing the information on the executable file;
a computer having a number of executable files; and
wherein the first server is adapted to provide the computer with the location information of the second server which can be used to query the second server for the information associated with the executable file.

48. The system of claim 47, wherein the first server includes a first server selected from the group consisting of a DHCP server, a DNS server, an ACAP server, and a LDAP server.

49. The system of claim 47, wherein the computer is configured to query a number of different tiers or multiple levels in a hierarchy of first servers in a serial order.

50. The system of claim 47, wherein the computer is configured to query a number of different tiers or multiple levels in a hierarchy of first servers in a parallel order.

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51. The system of claim 47, wherein the second server containing the information on the executable file includes information on at least one of the number of executable files on the computer.
52. The system of claim 47, wherein the computer is configured to query the second server, in an HTTP request format, for the information associated with the executable file using a number of qualifiers premised on at least one of the number of executable files on the computer.
53. The system of claim 47, wherein the query to the second server for the information associated with the executable file includes metadata extracted from the executable file.
54. The system of claim 53, wherein the metadata extracted from the executable file includes metadata for a debug file associated with the executable.
55. The system of claim 53, wherein the metadata extracted from the executable file includes metadata associated with regression analysis data for the executable file.
56. A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions to cause a computing system to perform a method comprising:
- using a lookup server to identify a set of location information for a server having information associated with an executable file, based on metadata extracted from the executable file; and
 - packaging an HTTP query for retrieving the information associated with the executable file.

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57. The method of claim 56, wherein using the lookup server to identify a set of location information for a server having information associated with an executable file includes providing a response to a requesting client from the lookup server.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein providing a response to a requesting client includes returning the set of location information on the server having information associated with an executable file to the requesting client as an HTTP redirect.

59. A method for locating information associated with a local file comprising:
packaging metadata extracted from the local file into an HTTP request;
sending the HTTP request to a set of locator servers containing location information for information associated with the local file;
receiving a set of information back from the set of locator servers; and
packaging an HTTP query for retrieving the information associated with the local file based on the set of information received back from the set of locator servers.

60. The method of claim 59, wherein packaging an HTTP query for retrieving information associated with the local file further includes qualifying the HTTP query to select a specific file version from among information associated with the local file.

61. The method of claim 60, wherein qualifying the HTTP query to select a specific file version from among the information associated with the local file includes qualifying the HTTP query to select an updated file version of an executable file.

62. The method of claim 60, wherein qualifying the HTTP query to select a specific file version from among the information associated with the local file

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includes qualifying the HTTP query to select a specific debug file associated with a local executable file.

63. A server architecture, comprising;

a first server, the first server including; means for interpreting metadata associated with an executable file received from a remote client; and means for redirecting the remote client to a second server containing information associated with the executable file; and

a second server adapted to interpreting a query from the remote client for retrieving a specific file from among the information associated with the executable file.

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